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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/735,795 | 12/14/2000 | Miyuki Tomikawa | 21.1986/WMS | 7326 |

21171 7590 05/03/2005

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| EXAMINER |
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OSMAN, RAMY M

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2157

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/735,795

Applicant(s)

TOMIKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Ramy M. Osman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4,6-8,10 and 12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,9 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of GROUP I (claims 1-3,9 and 11) in the reply filed on March 3, 2005 is acknowledged. Claims 1-3,9 and 11 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. **Claims 1-3,9 and 11 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Habra (US Patent No 5,295,081).**

4. In reference to claim 1, Habra teaches an input/output control system for controlling the input and output of commands from a plurality of consoles to a server, comprising:

an input/output status controller controlling the input/output status of commands from respective consoles to the server so that only one console is allowed to have input privilege at a time (column 2 lines 30-40 and column 3line 47 – column 4 line 21); and

an input/output controller controlling the input of commands to and the output of commands from respective consoles based on the input/output status (column 4 lines 1-40).

5. In reference to claim 2, Habra teaches the system as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

a display displaying console information identifying whether respective consoles have input/output privileges based on whether command input privileges are set for respective consoles (column 3 lines 35-47 and column 4 lines 15-21, Habra teaches editing and observing edits being made by other users in a computer aided design environment. This inherently involves identifying privileges because if a requesting user is not permitted to edit, then it is known that another user is permitted to edit).

6. In reference to claim 3, Habra teaches the system as recited in claim 1, wherein the input/output controller sets a type of input/output control based on the input/out status of a command received from the respective consoles (column4 lines 5-25).

7. In reference to claims 9 and 11, Habra teaches a computer readable storage medium storing program for implementing a method, and a method of controlling command input/output from a plurality of consoles to a server, comprising:

receiving commands input from the plurality of servers (column 3 line 45 – column 4 line 20);

updating an input status of the server in response to a first command received from a first console (column 4 lines 1-40); and

controlling the input status of the server to exclude input of other commands to the server while in the updated input status (column 4 lines 1-40),

wherein only one console is allowed to have input privilege with the server at a time (column 4 lines 4-10).

Response to Amendment

8. The examiner acknowledges the election of claims 1-3,9 and 11 made on 3/3/2005.
9. The examiner previously acknowledged the amendment filed 10/18/2004, where applicant amended claims 1,4 and 9-12.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3,9 and 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

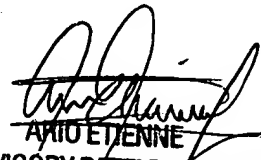
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramy M. Osman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4008.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RMO
April 27, 2005


ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
EBC TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100